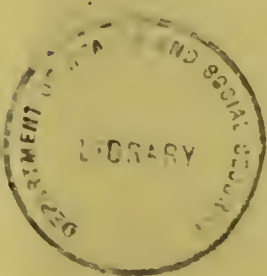


Axminster Rural  
Sidmouth Urban  
Honiton Rural

Honiton Borough  
Ottery St. Mary Urban  
Seaton Urban



ANNUAL REPORT  
of the  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
for 1968

NO. 2 AREA DEVON

---

Medical Officer of Health - Dr. R. C. MacLeod

	Public Health Inspectors	Surveyors
Axminster Rural .. .. .	L. H. White	F. J. Smith
Sidmouth Urban .. .. .	J. Fee	T. H. Chambers
Honiton Rural .. .. .	J. D. Hopgood	J. D. Hopgood
Honiton Borough .. .. .	A. J. C. Nex	A. J. C. Nex
Ottery St. Mary Urban ..	C. W. Glover	C. W. Glover
Seaton Urban .. .. .	P. R. Bradley	R. J. Farmer



DEPUTY MEDICAL OFFICERS

for

NO. 2 AREA - EAST DEVON

---

Axminster Rural	...	...	...	Dr. B. L. Finzel, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
Sidmouth Urban	...	...	...	Dr. R. B. Michelmore, M.D., M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
Honiton Rural	...	...	...	Dr. A. T. H. Glanvill, T.D., O. St. J., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., C.P.H.
Honiton Borough	...	...	...	Dr. W. H. McBay, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D. Obst., R.C.O.G., D.C.H.
Ottery St. Mary Urban	...	...	...	Dr. J. F. N. Sidebotham, M.B., B. Chir.
Seaton Urban	...	...	...	Dr. A. M. W. Coburn, M.B., Ch. B.

These doctors receive a small retainer and a sessional fee if called upon to deputise for or assist the Medical Officer of Health.



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# ANNUAL REPORT

for No. 2 Area for 1968

comprising

Axminster Rural, Sidmouth Urban,

Honiton Rural, Honiton Borough,

Ottery St. Mary Urban and Seaton Urban

This is the 12th Annual Report I have presented. I shall, as in previous years, comment on services provided in the area by the County Council as well as on those provided by the District Councils.

## Infectious Diseases Notified

1968

	Axminster Rural	Sidmouth Urban	Honiton Rural	Honiton Borough	Ottery St. Mary Urban	Seaton Urban	Total
Acute encephalitis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Acute meningitis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Acute poliomyelitis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Anthrax	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Diphtheria	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dysentery (amoebic or bacillary)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Erysipelas	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Food Poisoning	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Infective Jaundice	0	0	12	1	0	1	14
Leptospirosis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Measles	41	134	112	182	24	6	499
Ophthalmia neonatorum	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Paratyphoid fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pneumonia	1	1	5	3	0	0	10
Relapsing fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Scarlet fever	2	0	1	0	0	0	3
Tetanus	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tuberculosis (non-respiratory) 1		0	0	0	0	0	1
Tuberculosis (respiratory)	1	0	0	1	2	1	5
Typhoid fever	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Whooping cough	<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>10</u>
	<u>49</u>	<u>137</u>	<u>136</u>	<u>189</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>545</u>

## Typhoid

The typhoid case was a boy of 3, who was infected either in Hong Kong or India. The family and a large number of other contacts throughout Devon were examined but all were found to be clear. The boy recovered.

## Diphtheria

No cases have been reported for many years. Possibly the ravages of this disease are rather dim in the public memory. However, immunisation against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus is, of course, generally combined and is readily accepted by the public. The most recent Ministry of Health figures show that the percentage of children so immunised in Devonshire is a little better than the average for the whole country, but at around 80% there is room for improvement.

## Food Poisoning

One case only came to light in the area. This was a lady who was ill when she arrived in one of our seaside towns and was found to be suffering from a *Salmonella panama* infection. Extensive enquiries in her home town, at a stopping place en route, and locally, failed to reveal any other infections or any source of infection. This is, I am afraid, a rather typical case history with the *Salmonella* group of organisms.

By the courtesy of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food, notifications were received of fifteen instances of animals with *Salmonella dublin* infection. There was no spread to human beings.

## Food Hygiene

Numerous visits were paid to food handling premises and efforts made not only to ensure that the Food Hygiene Regulations were obeyed, but to interest personnel and the public in the reasons behind the precautions taken. While the standard in general continues to rise slowly, it is still very necessary that proprietors of premises where food is handled should look at their arrangements with a critical eye and check them regularly.

## Immunisation

A system whereby, with the co-operation of the County Medical Department, immunisation figures for the six districts covered by this Report can be compiled separately from those of the County as a whole, has been continued. The numbers inoculated are shown below:

	Primary	Booster	Total
Diphtheria	-	4	4
Diphtheria/Tetanus	45	175	220
Measles	423	22	445
Poliomyelitis	733 (2 incomplete) <sup>†</sup>	442	1,175
Smallpox	441	144	585
T. A. B. / Tetanus	8	1	9
Tetanus	62	107	169
Triple *	679 (3 incomplete) <sup>†</sup>	264	943
	<hr/> 2,391	<hr/> 1,159	<hr/> 3,550

\* Combined Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus vaccines.

† Most of those incomplete will be completed in 1969.



### Poliomyelitis

No cases of poliomyelitis occurred.

### Dysentery

No cases of dysentery were reported.

### Tuberculosis

Seven cases (six respiratory) were confirmed. One of the four male respiratory cases was over 65, and the others were aged 44, 39 and 24. The two females were aged 64 and 49. In addition one case moved into the area and was later notified as having recovered.

The Heaf testing of school children as detailed in previous Reports continues.

B. C. G. vaccination against Tuberculosis is offered to children in all schools, both State and private, throughout the area, and those found to be Heaf test negative are vaccinated. Figures for these tests and subsequent vaccinations are shown below:

Children in appropriate age groups	...	...	...	696
Children whose parents gave consent	...	...	...	610
Children Heaf tested	...	...	...	592
Children Heaf negative	...	...	...	551 (including 16 new Grade I's)
Children Heaf positive	...	...	...	33 (excluding 16 new Grade I's)
Children given B. C. G.	...	...	...	503

Most of the children on the school rolls for whom consent for Heaf testing was not received were not actual refusals, (of which there were only 22), and will be dealt with next year. Of the 49 children who were positive to the Heaf test 16 were positive because they had had B. C. G. on some previous occasion and three had been positive on previous occasions. There were thus 30 new positives, of which 16 were Grade I's, the significance of which is rather doubtful, and which are under the new instructions treated as negative and given B. C. G. If the children who had been previously positive and the new positives are taken together and the unexplained Grade I's taken as negative, this gives a positive incidence of 2.9% a figure very much lower than the national average.

### Brucellosis

The special scheme of milk sampling for our six districts continued throughout the year. Through this scheme N. A. A. S. samples taken for ordinary hygienic assessment were passed on to the Public Health Laboratory in Exeter, where they were examined for *Brucella abortus*, and in addition samples from farms where consents operated - that is where there was permission to supply a few neighbours only - were taken by the Public Health Inspectors. The County sampling scheme continued alongside our own. Under our scheme 305 samples were taken from 93 farms: of these 40 were positive to the milk ring test and 16 (12 farms) contained *Brucella abortus*. The numerous investigational milk and blood samples are not included in these figures.

The Brucellosis Eradication Scheme is achieving wide acceptance in Devon but of course some years must pass before the percentage of infected cattle is much reduced.

The Divisional Veterinary Officer has given the following figures for the County:

Number of application forms sent out	- 1583
Number of completed forms returned	- 946
Number of Preliminary Report visits made	- 825
Number of Preliminary Reports sent to H.Q.	- 821
Number of herd milk samples taken	- 1580
Number of herd milk samples returned from Starcross	- 1561
Number of herd milk samples negative	- 1345
Number of herd milk samples positive	- 216
Number of blood test reports received from Starcross	- 293
Number of blood tests negative	- 241
Number of blood tests positive	- 52
Number of Accredited Herds	- 190

#### Human Cases

During the year blood samples from five individuals gave a positive agglutination titre for *Brucella abortus*. Two of the infected persons were veterinary surgeons and were obviously infected at work. One was a farmer's daughter on a farm where infection in the cattle had been present; she was a chronic case, as was a young woman whose positive titre was discovered in the course of investigations for another condition. The last case had been infected outside this area.

#### Anthrax

Under the provision of the Diseases of Animals Act 1950 -

Anthrax Order 1938

One bovine infection was notified: there was no spread to human beings.

An efficient vaccine against anthrax is now available and the use of it will be advised for persons working in appropriate establishments.

#### International Certificates of Vaccination

When completed by the medical practitioners these certificates must be authenticated by the local Medical Officer of Health.

Number authenticated during the year is shown below:

Month	Smallpox	T. A. B.	Cholera	Total
January	29	1	2	32
February	45	-	-	45
March	45	-	1	46
April	42	-	1	43
May	35	-	4	39
June	48	-	5	53
July	58	3	11	72
August	45	-	1	46
September	59	-	9	68
October	143	39	13	195
November	41	2	7	50
December	32	3	8	43
	<u>622</u>	<u>48</u>	<u>62</u>	<u>732</u>



The total for last year was 577, so that foreign travel from this area is again increasing.

### Cancer

There is no upward trend in the figures for cancer of the lungs and bronchus, and the advantages of living outside an industrial zone are once again emphasized. The total of cancer deaths does not show any significant change either.

Lungs and Bronchus							All Types including Lungs and Bronchus						
1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968
Axminster Rural - Population 14,800													
9	13	7	9	12	8	10	44	42	26	41	39	41	52
Sidmouth Urban - Population 11,990													
8	12	9	6	7	19	5	47	52	40	34	45	67	54
Honiton Rural - Population 7,410													
3	0	2	2	6	0	2	16	10	23	14	20	10	14
Honiton Borough - Population 5,800													
1	1	1	0	1	2	0	5	11	15	10	10	9	7
Ottery St. Mary Urban - Population 5,500													
1	3	1	1	2	1	4	14	12	15	10	14	6	16
Seaton Urban - Population 3,840													
4	3	0	4	3	1	3	16	10	16	16	20	14	11
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
26	32	20	22	31	31	24	142	137	135	125	148	147	154
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

### Welfare of Old People

No action was required under the National Assistance Act 1948, Section 47, but many visits were paid to elderly persons suspected to be in need of care and attention. Four were removed to Hospital or Home without need of legal action.

The Seebohm Report on Welfare Services has aroused wide interest and discussion. The central idea that all the social services should be combined must receive unqualified support, but the recommendation that the line between the social services and the medical services should simply be drawn in a new place is, to say the least, unfortunate. However, there is no doubt that whatever the final set-up at district level, as long as the district continues to exist, social workers and public health staffs will co-operate peacefully as usual.

More groups of elderly persons dwellings with wardens in charge are being provided, and a group of flats built to let at an economic rent to persons of moderate means in one area has been a great success. It is hoped that other councils will follow this example.

The various voluntary associations do sterling work and their activities will be most necessary no matter what the decision is on the local government and social service units.

The Meals-on-Wheels Service in Axminster, Honiton, Ottery St. Mary, Seaton, and Sidmouth, continues to be much needed and much appreciated. In the Axminster area 1,568 meals were served; in the Sidmouth area 3,564 (which does not include the emergency meals supplied immediately after the floods in July); in the Honiton area 1,364; in the Ottery St. Mary area 2,931; and in the Seaton area 2,272.

The full-time Chiropodists held clinics at Axminster, Beer, Branscombe, Colyton, Honiton, Ottery St. Mary, Seaton and Sidmouth throughout the year.

### Hospitals

There are four hospitals in the area -

(1) Axminster. Accommodation is as follows: 30 beds for general medical and minor surgical cases including one private and one amenity bed.

(2) Honiton. Accommodation is as follows: 119 beds in all. 93 chronic sick, 10 maternity and 16 acute medical and minor surgical.

(3) Ottery St. Mary. Accommodation is as follows: 23 beds in all. 4 chronic sick and 19 general medical and minor surgical including one private and one amenity bed.

(4) Sidmouth. Accommodation is as follows: 34 beds in all. 4 maternity, 2 private, and 28 general.

Cases of infectious disease from the area go to Whipton Isolation Hospital. The Resident Physician and his staff have been most helpful at all times.

### Laboratory Facilities

Co-operation between the Public Health Laboratory Service at Exeter and the Public Health Department has been close.

### Child Welfare Clinics

Child Welfare Clinics are held at Axminster, Colyton, Honiton, Ottery St. Mary, Seaton, Sidford and Sidmouth. The number of sessions held and the attendances were as follows:

#### Axminster

Number of sessions held - 24  
Total number of attendances (babies) - 32  
Total number of attendances (toddlers) - 57

#### Colyton

Number of sessions held - 24  
Total number of attendances (babies) - 203  
Total number of attendances (toddlers) - 131

#### Honiton

Number of sessions held - 51  
Total number of attendances (babies) - 608  
Total number of attendances (toddlers) - 208

Ottery St. Mary

Number of sessions held - 44  
Total number of attendances (babies) - 1659  
Total number of attendances (toddlers) - 531

Seaton

Number of sessions held - 24  
Total number of attendances (babies) - 216  
Total number of attendances (toddlers) - 225

Sidford

Number of sessions held - 23  
Total number of attendances (babies) - 276  
Total number of attendances (toddlers) - 174

Sidmouth

Number of sessions held - 49  
Total number of attendances (babies) - 712  
Total number of attendances (toddlers) - 249

Water Supplies

Improvements to the water supply steadily continue, though with so many small sources difficulties are bound to arise from time to time. No water-borne disease has occurred. Samples from the East Devon Water Board's supplies are examined chemically by the Board's chemist and bacteriologist, and while bacteriological examinations are done by him according to a sampling scheme in conformity with the World Health Organisation recommendations, samples are also submitted to the Public Health Laboratory Service for independent assessment. Water Board personnel are medically examined on appointment, and in the case of all outdoor staff a Widal Test is included. This is repeated at intervals, but as a routine precaution all medical certificates for such personnel are scrutinised by the M.O.H., who is also M.O. to the Board, and where there is any indication of gastro intestinal upset or other suspicious symptom further enquiries are made.

The Chief Engineer to the East Devon Water Board reports as follows:

"Public water supply has been adequate at all times and the bacteriological samples taken from all the sources of supply, the service reservoirs and the various distribution systems, have confirmed the satisfactory quality of the water.

"Further borehole sources have been successfully tested at sites near Greatwell, Ottery St. Mary and at Harpford. New service reservoirs have been constructed at Chinway, Ottery St. Mary and at Woolbrook in Sidmouth.

"Main laying has been completed for the Otter Valley Borehole scheme and water is now being delivered from the Dotton Pumping Station to supplement the supplies to Sidmouth. This will allow the spring sources in the Sid Valley to be disused. At present these supplies are corrosive to lead and copper and it is intended to build treatment plant for the spring water.

"Difficulties have been experienced with the No. 3 borehole at Sidford; inflows of sand and marl have resulted in discoloration of the supply in Sidmouth. The service reservoir has been cleared out and the affected mains are being cleansed by means of plastic foam swabs.



"The floods during the summer severely damaged works at the spring source near Weston. This supply is now only used on an emergency basis, the normal supply being pumped up from Sidford.

"Mains at Tipton, Gosford, Fenny Bridges, and Upottery were swept away by flood waters but within a few hours temporary arrangements had been made to enable supply to be restored. Permanent repairs still remain to be carried out.

"Taste in the water from the Greatwell boreholes, due to the presence of extremely small amounts of phenol which re-act with chlorine to give an "iodoform" taste, have been dealt with by the addition of ammonia.

"At the Holyford Works the media in the filters has been completely renewed and improved arrangements made for chemical dosing.

"Chlorine residual recorder instruments have been obtained for installation at Hook, Holyford and Wilmington Pumping Stations to enable checks to be made on the accuracy of chlorine dosing and to safeguard the supply against inadequate chlorination.

"The supply to Combe Raleigh, which for over half a century has come from St. Cyres spring source, will shortly be transferred to the Wilmington spring source which is a better quality water bacteriologically, although of harder characteristic.

"The Board has recently made new Byelaws for the prevention of waste, misuse and contamination of water."

### Outworkers

Under the provisions relating to the Outworkers in the Factories Act, 1937, it is necessary for Councils in whose area there are factories or other establishments employing Outworkers to inform the Medical Officer of Health of the district where the Outworkers live of the fact of their employment.

The number of Outworkers seems to be declining. No problem has arisen in connection with such employment during the year.

### Mass Radiography

The service continued to run routine fortnightly sessions in Honiton and Sidmouth. The numbers examined and the conditions found are shown in the table below. Of the total of 895 persons examined, 457 were referred by general practitioners.

Total number examined...	...	...	...	895
Males	...	...	...	437
Females	...	...	...	458

#### Conditions found:

Active pulmonary tuberculosis	...	...	3
Healed pulmonary tuberculosis	...	...	15
Melanoma	...	...	1
Retrosternal thyroid	...	...	1
Acquired cardiac lesion	...	...	17
Bacterial and virus infections of the lungs	...	...	6
Bronchitis and emphysema	...	...	13

Depressed sternum	...	...	...	...	1
Pleural thickening	...	...	...	...	1
Pulmonary fibrosis	...	...	...	...	1
Abnormality of the diaphragm	...	...	...	...	1
Basal fibrosis	...	...	...	...	1
Dorsal scoliosis	...	...	...	...	1

## General

In the succeeding pages there is given for each district statistical information and the report of the Health Inspector. These reports give a great deal of detail on the work done to prevent disease and improve living conditions. The effectiveness of this work depends to a considerable extent on local knowledge and local responsibility, and it is to be hoped that any reorganisation of districts and of public health and social work areas gives due weight to the importance of this base on which so much of the newer social and medical advances rest.

R. C. MacLEOD,

Medical Officer of Health.





# AXMINSTER RURAL DISTRICT

Area .....	50,823 acres
Population .....	14,800
Number of Parishes.....	14
Rateable Value.....	£555,624
Penny Rate produces .....	£2,218
General Rate levied .....	10/5d.

## Deaths

1967	96 males, 92 females	...	...	...	...	...	188
	Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population ..						12.7
	Comparability factor	...	...	...	...	...	0.78
	Standardised death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	...	9.9
1968	116 males, 94 females	...	...	...	...	...	210
	Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population ..						14.2
	Comparability factor	...	...	...	...	...	0.76
	Standardised death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	...	10.8

## Live Births

1967	76 males, 88 females	...	...	...	...	...	164
	6 illegitimate births were registered and are included in the above total of	...	...	...	...	...	164
	Live birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population						11.0
	Comparability factor	...	...	...	...	...	1.31
	Standardised birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	...	14.4
	Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	...	...				3.7
1968	92 males, 84 females	...	...	...	...	...	176
	13 illegitimate births were registered and are included in the above total of	...	...	...	...	...	176
	Live birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population						11.9
	Comparability factor	...	...	...	...	...	1.31
	Standardised birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	...	15.6
	Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	...	...				7.4

## Still Births

1967	8 still births were registered (1 illegitimate)	...	...	...			8
	Total live and still births	...	...	...	...	...	172
	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	...	...	...			47.00
1968	0 still births were registered (0 illegitimate)	...	...	...			0
	Total live and still births	...	...	...	...	...	176
	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	...	...	...			nil

### Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age

1967	2 deaths were registered (0 illegitimate)	...	...	...	...	2
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	12.00
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	...	13.00
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	...	...	nil
1968	3 deaths were registered (0 illegitimate)	...	...	...	...	3
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	17.00
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	...	18.4
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	...	...	nil

### Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age

1967	2 deaths were registered (0 illegitimate)	...	...	...	...	2
	Neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	12.00
	Maternal deaths	...	...	...	...	nil
1968	0 deaths were registered (0 illegitimate)	...	...	...	...	0
	Neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	nil
	Maternal deaths	...	...	...	...	nil

### Deaths of Infants under 1 week of age

1967	1 death was registered (0 illegitimate)	...	...	...	...	1
	Early neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	6.00
	Peri-natal mortality rate	...	...	...	...	52
1968	0 deaths were registered (0 illegitimate)	...	...	...	...	0
	Early neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	nil
	Peri-natal mortality rate	...	...	...	...	nil

### Deaths

The chief causes of death were:

Other tuberculosis, including late effects	...	...	...	...	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	...	...	7
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	...	...	...	10
Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	...	...	3
Leukaemia	...	...	...	...	2
Other malignant neoplasms, etc.	...	...	...	...	30
Diabetes mellitus	...	...	...	...	1
Avitaminoses, etc.	...	...	...	...	1
Other diseases of nervous system, etc.	...	...	...	...	3
Chronic rheumatic heart disease	...	...	...	...	2
Hypertensive disease	...	...	...	...	7
Ischaemic heart disease	...	...	...	...	51
Other forms of heart disease	...	...	...	...	7
Cerebrovascular disease	...	...	...	...	30
Other diseases of circulatory system	...	...	...	...	14
Influenza	...	...	...	...	2
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	11
Bronchitis and emphysema	...	...	...	...	6
Asthma	...	...	...	...	1
Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	...	...	1
Peptic ulcer	...	...	...	...	3

Other diseases of digestive system	...	...	...	...	2
Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	...	2
Other diseases, genito-urinary system	...	...	...	...	1
Congenital anomalies	...	...	...	...	2
Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	...	2
All other accidents	...	...	...	...	5
Suicide and self-inflicted injuries	...	...	...	...	3
					<hr/>
					210
					<hr/>

## Annual Report of the Public Health Inspector

### Water Supplies

1. East Devon Water Board. Sampling covered the main 12 parish areas in the district and satisfactory results were obtained from their analysis.

The number of hereditaments in the area supplied by the Board so far as can be ascertained are as follows:

	Private Houses	Council Houses	Agricultural, Commercial and all other premises
Supplied by the Board	2951	1177	1048
Supplied by Private Water Undertakings	109	37	10
Total in District	3657	1221	1845

2. Private Water Undertakings. There are only two in the district and they are not subject to any treatment or chlorination.

(a) Axmouth (Stedcombe Estate) Supply ... .. Class 1

(b) Combpayne Supply. This supply has been subject to the usual sampling procedures and the position has not materially changed. Consequently, there have been several meetings and discussions and a decision has been made to take appropriate action under Section 140 of the Public Health Act 1936.

### Sewerage

The Dalwood and Membury schemes are now well forward and when completed will help to improve the sanitary facilities to houses in the area and solve the inevitable drainage nuisances and problems that arise where sewers are not available.

During the year there was overall consideration of the drainage needs within the district and of the existing drainage systems. The results have been most revealing. It is always wise to keep constant surveillance on the efficiency of existing systems in relation to Planning approvals and developments and to make appreciations of the future needs within the district.

### Public Conveniences

There are two at Axminster, and one each at Colyton and Beer. Considerable efforts are being made to provide additional accommodation at Beer. It has been further proposed that some type of convenience should be erected to serve the Axmouth Harbour area, and it is hoped that when this comes to fruition the construction and layout will be well up to the required standards. The condition of public conveniences always reflect on the Local Authority and it is becoming increasingly difficult to find sufficient and adequate staff to keep them in good order. It is regrettable that the buildings of this essential service are so often subject to vandalism.



## General Inspections and Visits

### General Sanitation

Water Supply	...	...	...	5
Drainage	...	...	...	61
Stables, Piggeries and Cow Stalls	...	...	...	15
Offensive Trades	...	...	...	144
Caravans, Tents, Vans and Sheds (Sites)	...	...	...	558
Litter	...	...	...	9
Factories and Workshops	...	...	...	37
Animal Boarding Establishments	...	...	...	7
Civic Amenities Act 1967	...	...	...	48
Refuse Collection	...	...	...	66
Refuse Disposal	...	...	...	89
Rats and Mice (Prevention of Damage by Pests)			Act	8
Atmospheric pollution	...	...	...	1
Shops and Offices Act - Inspections	..	...	...	14
Shops and Offices Act - Visits	...	...	...	13
Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits	...	...	...	48
Petroleum - Inspections and Visits	...	...	...	28
Explosives - Visits	...	...	...	7
Scrap Metal Dealers	...	...	...	1
Rent and Repairs Act	...	...	...	6

### Housing

#### Under Housing Acts -

Number of houses inspected	...	...	...	43
Visits paid to above	...	...	...	57
Filthy or verminous premises	...	...	...	2

### Infectious Diseases

Miscellaneous Infectious Disease visits	...	...	...	2
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### Meat and Food Inspections

#### Inspection of Meat -

Visits to Slaughterhouse	...	...	...	3
Total Meat Inspection visits	...	...	...	115
Knackers Yard	...	...	...	49

#### Visits in connection with -

Water sampling	...	...	...	46
Condemnation of food	...	...	...	4

#### (a) Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations 1963

There are no liquid egg pasteurisation plants in our district.

(b) Food and Drugs Act 1955

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960

1. Number of premises registered under Section 16:

	Number in Area	Number of Inspections
(a) Manufacture of Sausages	10	3
(b) Sale of Ice Cream only (pre-packed)	81	17
(c) Fish Frying	3	3

2. Food Hygiene (Markets, Stalls, Delivery Vehicles) Regulations 1966

There are 49 delivery vehicles and mobile stalls operating from premises in the area. During the year 123 inspections were carried out.

3. It has not been possible to form any food guild within the area.

4. Disposal of condemned foods:

- (a) Tinned Food - by incineration
- (b) Meat - by incineration

The following was condemned:

Tinned Meat	6 lbs.	Tinned Vegetables	7 lbs.
Fresh Meat	932 lbs. 8 oz.	Tinned Fruit	10 lbs. 2 oz.

also the contents of a deep freeze container including meat, fish, and confectionery (sweet) products to the retail value of £15 due to a mechanical breakdown.

5. No action has been necessary with regard to Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, as no ice cream is manufactured in this district.

6. Number of Food Premises

Type	No. in area	Fitted to comply with Reg. 16	Reg. 19 applies	Fitted to comply with Reg. 19	Number of inspections
(a) Bakeries ... ..	8	8	8	8	8
(b) Beach Stalls ... ..	3	3	3	3	3
(c) Butchers ... ..	12	12	12	12	5
(d) Canteens (Works and School)	22	22	22	22	1
(e) Clubs, Licensed premises, Hotels ... ..	52	42	52	52	4
(f) Confectioners ... ..	13	13	-	-	8
(g) Milk Distributors, Dairies	4	4	4	4	9
(h) Fishmongers, Poulterers	4	4	4	4	4
(i) Greengrocers, Fruiterers	8	6	8	6	-
(j) Grocers ... ..	48	45	31	31	6
(k) Market Stalls ... ..	5	-	-	-	15
(l) Pannier Market ... ..	1	-	-	-	17
(m) Restaurants, cafes ...	19	19	19	19	3

## Food Poisoning

There were no cases of food poisoning.

## Poultry Inspection

Number of Poultry Processing premises within the district	...	...	...	...	1
Number of visits to these premises	...	...	...	...	41
Total number of birds processed during the year	...	...	...	...	722,420
Types of birds processed	...	...	...	...	Hens, capons, broiler chicks and turkeys
Percentage of birds rejected as unfit for human consumption	...	...	...	...	.45%
Weight of poultry condemned as unfit for human consumption	...	...	...	...	11,812 lbs.

General supervision continued over the processing and packing in the limited time available and general oversight is carried out by a spotter in the poultry trade.

## Meat Inspection Regulations 1963

Slaughtering continued at Axminster. Ten slaughtermen are licensed in the district under the Slaughter of Animals Act 1958. 100% meat inspection is carried out and all meat stamped as laid down in the Regulations.

Carcases and offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part:

	Cattle	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number inspected	167	692	21
All Disease except Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis:			
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part was condemned	5	5	-
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis	3.0%	.72%	-
Tuberculosis only:			
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part was condemned	-	-	2
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	-	-	9.5%
Cysticercosis	-	-	-

## Diseases of Animals (Waste Foods) Order 1957

There is one licence in force in this district. A new building was erected to re-house the cooking plant and this has resulted in immense improvements.

## Animal By-Products

Continued vigilance has been exercised throughout the year.

## Refuse Collection and Disposal

Delivery of a new compaction vehicle has meant vast improvements for the personnel carrying out refuse collection. It is hoped by the end of next year that

a decision will be made to acquire a further compaction vehicle (suitable to this district) and this should further assist with the refuse collection which expands yearly at an approximate rate of  $1\frac{1}{2}$  - 2%.

Refuse disposal still continues at Smiters Pit which has an extremely short and limited "life"; therefore there is still the urgent need to acquire a suitable disposal point that will last for several years.

#### Litter Act 1958

The litter receptacles on county and main roads are emptied twice weekly from June to September and weekly in the remaining part of the year. They still continue to be misused.

#### Civic Amenities Act 1967

Several vehicles have been received and disposed of at the Council's tip and, in the main, local owners are being encouraged not to abandon unwanted vehicles around the countryside but to bring them to the Council disposal point.

#### Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949 - Rodent Control

The following premises were inspected:

Local Authority . . . . .	24
Dwelling Houses (including Council Houses) . . . . .	627
All other (including business premises) . . . . .	236
Agricultural . . . . .	214

Test baiting and maintenance treatments were carried out in May and November to the Council's sewerage systems at Axminster, Axmouth, Beer, Colyton, Colyford and Stockland.

Private rechargeable treatments and contracts are in operation and services have also been carried out to the Council's sewage treatment plants.

#### Factories Act 1961

Premises	Number on Register	Number of Inspections	Number of written Notices
Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are enforced by the Local Authority	5	5	-
Factories not included in above in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	68	31	-
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	1	1	1
	—	—	—
Totals	74	37	1
	—	—	—



# Sections 133 and 134 - Outworkers

Nature of work	Section 133 No. of outworkers in August list re- quired by Section 133 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecu- tions for failure to supply lists	Section 134 No. of instances of work in un- wholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecu- tions
Wearing apparel	5	-	-	-	-	-
Nets	3	-	-	-	-	-

## Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963

TABLE A - Registrations and General Inspections

	Totals	4	123	14
Offices ... ..	2	30	12	
Retail Shops ... ..	2	73	2	
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses	-	1	-	
Catering establishments open to the public, Canteens	-	18	-	
Fuel storage depots ... ..	-	1	-	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	
Class of premises	Number of premises registered during the year	Total number of registered premises at end of year	Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year	

TABLE B - Number of Visits of all kinds by Inspectors to Registered Premises - 27

TABLE C - Analysis by Workplace of Persons employed in Registered Premises

Class of workplace (1)	Number of persons employed (2)
Offices ... ..	160
Retail Shops ... ..	302
Wholesale departments, Warehouses ... ..	20
Catering establishments open to the public ... ..	105
Canteens ... ..	-
Fuel storage depots ... ..	13
Total	600
Total Males	246
Total Females	354



## Housing Act 1957

1. Total number of dwelling houses informally demolished	nil
2. Total number of dwelling houses demolished	4
3. Total number of dwelling houses closed	4
4. Total number of dwelling houses informally closed	2
5. Total number of houses rendered fit by formal notice	nil
6. Total number of houses rendered fit by informal notice	3
7. Undertakings accepted	1
8. Undertakings completed	1

## Rural Housing Survey

Arising from 391 Official Searches, 19 properties were revealed in the lower categories. Owners availed themselves of the information regarding the defects and were encouraged, sometimes by Improvement Grant, to raise the condition of the property to a higher category.

## Housing

56 Private dwellings and 20 Council houses were completed.

## Improvement Grants

During the year 11 Discretionary Grants were approved, involving grants amounting to £3,042. 26 Standard Grants were also approved, involving maximum grant value of £4,818.

The total number of grant applications dealt with up to 31st December 1968 by the Surveyor's Department, now totals 544, involving a total value of work of £107,303.

## Caravans and Camping

Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960  
Public Health Act 1936

In 1968 there were in use at peak of season:

Residential caravans	...	...	...	17
Static Holiday Caravans	...	...	...	402
Touring Caravans	...	...	...	80
Organised Tents	...	...	...	119
Casual Tents	...	...	...	200
Motorised - e.g. Dormobile	...	...	...	12
Holiday Chalet	...	...	...	4

There are four main Licensed caravan sites and two camping sites within the district which are regularly inspected.

In view of the indiscriminate use of caravans and the many contraventions of the above Acts, instruction was given to survey the whole district and to ascertain the current position with regard to the siting of all caravans, and similar annual surveys will enable the sub-committee dealing with these matters to keep the position under review and take what action they deem necessary.

## Scrap Metal Dealers Act 1964

There is one dealer registered operating from a store.

## Explosives

Administrative work in connection with the Explosives Acts, 1875 and 1923, was carried out.

The number licensed was:

(a) for the keeping of Mixed Explosives	14
(b) for the keeping of Cartridges	2
(c) for the keeping of Gunpowder	2

## Petroleum

Petroleum (Mixtures) Order 1929

Petroleum (Regulations) Acts, 1928 and 1936

The inspection and annual licensing of all statutory installations covering 66 storage sites for petrol and 10 for petroleum mixtures was dealt with.

## Animal Boarding Establishments Act 1963

Three establishments have been relicensed, providing adequate and satisfactory accommodation for the boarding of 47 dogs and 15 cats. Re-visits have shown that they have been maintained and well run.

## Staff

Once again I would like to express my thanks to Mr. Cleavelly and Miss Urquhart for their excellent help and assistance during the year.

L.H. WHITE, M.R.S.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector.



# SIDMOUTH URBAN DISTRICT

Area .....	11,475 acres
Population .....	11,990
Rateable Value .....	£632,359
Penny Rate produces .....	£2,482
General Rate levied .....	12/6d.

## Deaths

1967	117 males, 137 females	...	...	...	...	254
	Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population					21.6
	Comparability factor	...	...	...	...	0.43
	Standardised death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	9.3
1968	130 males, 122 females	...	...	...	...	252
	Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population					21.00
	Comparability factor	...	...	...	...	0.43
	Standardised death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	9.00

## Live Births

1967	57 males, 56 females	...	...	...	...	113
	9 illegitimate births were registered and are included in the above total of	...	...	...	...	113
	Live birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	9.6
	Comparability factor	...	...	...	...	1.9
	Standardised birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	18.2
	Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	...	...	...	...	8.00
1968	45 males, 42 females	...	...	...	...	87
	15 illegitimate births were registered and are included in the above total of	...	...	...	...	87
	Live birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	7.3
	Comparability factor	...	...	...	...	1.90
	Standardised birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	13.8
	Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	...	...	...	...	17.2

## Still Births

1967	0 still births were registered (0 illegitimate)	...	...	...	0
	Total live and still births	...	...	...	113
	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	...	...	...	nil
1968	0 still births were registered (0 illegitimate)	..	...	...	0
	Total live and still births	...	...	...	87
	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	...	...	...	nil

### Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age

1967	1 death was registered (0 illegitimate) ... ..	1
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births ... ..	9.00
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 legitimate live births ...	10.00
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births ...	nil
1968	2 deaths were registered (0 illegitimate) ... ..	2
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births ... ..	23.00
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 legitimate live births ...	27.8
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births ...	nil

### Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age

1967	1 death was registered (0 illegitimate) ... ..	1
	Neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births ... ..	9.00
	Maternal deaths ... ..	nil
1968	2 deaths were registered (0 illegitimate) .. ...	2
	Neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births .. ...	23.00
	Maternal deaths ... ..	nil

### Deaths of Infants under 1 week of age

1967	0 deaths were registered (0 illegitimate) ... ..	0
	Early neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births ..	nil
	Peri-natal mortality rate ... ..	nil
1968	2 deaths were registered (0 illegitimate) .. ...	2
	Early neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births ..	23.00
	Peri-natal mortality rate ... ..	23.00

### Deaths

The chief causes of death were:

Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	7
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	5
Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	4
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	5
Leukaemia	...	3
Other malignant neoplasms, etc.	...	30
Diabetes mellitus	...	4
Other endocrine, etc. diseases	...	1
Meningitis	...	1
Other diseases of nervous system, etc.	...	2
Chronic rheumatic heart disease	...	2
Hypertensive disease	...	4
Ischaemic heart disease	...	58
Other forms of heart disease	...	19
Cerebrovascular disease	...	32
Other diseases of circulatory system	...	15
Influenza	...	1
Pneumonia	...	16
Bronchitis and emphysema	...	5
Asthma	...	2
Other diseases of respiratory system	...	4



Peptic ulcer	...	...	...	...	...	4
Appendicitis	...	...	...	...	...	1
Intestinal obstruction and hernia	...	...	...	...	...	1
Cirrhosis of liver	...	...	...	...	...	2
Other diseases of digestive system	...	...	...	...	...	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	...	...	1
Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	...	...	1
Other diseases, genito-urinary system	...	...	...	...	...	2
Diseases of musculo-skeletal system	...	...	...	...	...	3
Congenital anomalies	...	...	...	...	...	2
Birth injury, difficult labour, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	1
Symptoms and ill-defined conditions	...	...	...	...	...	2
Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	...	...	3
All other accidents	...	...	...	...	...	4
Suicide and self-inflicted injuries	...	...	...	...	...	2
All other external causes	...	...	...	...	...	2
						<hr/>
						252
						<hr/>

## Annual Report of the Public Health Inspector

Generally the work of the department proceeded satisfactorily during the year, able assistance having been given by Mr. A. Tawse.

Normal activities were interrupted by the floods which occurred in July. Fortunately no public health hazard arose and it was possible to concentrate efforts on providing assistance with clearing up and drying the houses affected.

The following is a resume of the work carried out during the year.

### Infectious Diseases

One case of food poisoning (Salmonella) was notified; the person affected being a visitor who became ill just after arriving in the town. The time of onset clearly indicated that the infection had been picked up elsewhere, but the Local Authority of the person's home area were unable to pinpoint the source.

A case of Typhoid notified required a considerable amount of investigation and follow-up of the family and other home contacts of the case. The disease proved to be confined to the one person affected, a child, who had recently arrived with other members of the family from the Far East.

### Water Supplies

The East Devon Water Board continued to be responsible for supply of water to the vast majority of premises in the district. Extracts relating to the district from the Board's Chief Engineer's Report are given on pages 7 - 8.

Private supplies in the district were reduced by two, these being houses in Greenway area to which a mains supply was brought at the expense of the owners concerned.

As a result of discovery of a potential source of serious pollution to two private water supplies in the Sidbury area - a dump containing animal matter - urgent measures were taken to eliminate the hazard. Following this, on our advice, the persons whose water supplies were affected proceeded with schemes to provide safer water sources, and at the time of writing one has been completed and the other is in progress.

A list of private supplies is given in Appendix 'A'.

### Air Pollution

Daily measurements of smoke and sulphur dioxide content at the Sidmouth sampling point in the Highways Depot were discontinued in April, Warren Springs Laboratory having obtained sufficient data for their requirements.

### Sewerage

The Ministry, following submission of detailed plans relating to enlargement of the sewer system by the Surveyor, raised several technical queries. Shortage of technical staff in the Surveyor's department delayed alterations in the plans required by the Ministry, but at the time of writing the Surveyor has almost completed them and the amended plans will be submitted soon for final approval.

The Salcombe Regis sewage disposal arrangements gave rise to difficulties on several occasions because of gross overloading. The Council has agreed, however, that provision of adequate sewage treatment plant there be given equal priority with revision of the main sewerage, and the Surveyor is in process of drawing up a suitable scheme for approval by the Council.

#### Refuse Disposal

Use of the tip at Knapp Copse, where Honiton Borough, Honiton Rural District, and Seaton Urban District Councils also dump, continued.

The possibility of attaining a fully controlled tipping routine mentioned in last year's report was given full consideration. We were fortunate in obtaining the advice of Mr. H.M. Ellis, of Bristol, an acknowledged expert, who at the Surveyor's request inspected our tip in August. He advised that it would be possible by introduction of arrangements which he suggested, to have a controlled tipping routine, and these suggestions, which incorporated a proposal for a road to a lower level in the copse, were approved by the Council.

The Surveyor's department commenced work at the site late in the year, but with the winter rainfall conditions at the tip made it impossible for the work to continue, delaying completion of the job. The conditions at the tip during the wet weather clearly indicated that a daily controlled tipping operation may be wellnigh impossible at times of continuous heavy rainfall. It is thought, however, that periods without daily cover, occasioned by adverse weather conditions, would be acceptable.

#### Diseases of Animals (Waste Foods) Order 1957

During the year the County Council imposed new standards for swill boiling plants under their jurisdiction, and asked other local authorities to consider adoption of similar standards for premises in their areas. Sidmouth Council agreed to do so, and swill boiling licensees in the district were informed and given until June 1969 to carry out the necessary modifications to their premises. One licensee incorporated the new proposals in the construction of a new building to house pigs. Of the remaining three licensees in the district, one has now ceased business for reasons unconnected with the new requirements, leaving two plants to be brought up to the required standard.

#### Caravans

The number of licensed sites in the district remains as before, details of which are as follows:

				Number of Caravans Licensed
Dunscombe Manor Farm, Salcombe Regis	...			58
Thorn Farm, Salcombe Regis	...	...	...	50
Slade Farm, Salcombe Regis	...	...	...	9
Bulverton House, Sidmouth	...	...	...	1 (temporary)
Applegarth Hotel, Sidford	...	...	...	1 (temporary)



At Dunscombe Manor Farm a new licensee intends to provide caravans with individual internal facilities in preference to building communal toilet blocks. It is his intention ultimately to have all caravans with internal facilities, but in view of the expense involved in providing drainage, etc., the work will be phased over several years. Initially drainage and sewage disposal arrangements will be provided for ten vans in one area, and it is expected that these works will be completed by the start of the 1969 season.

An application for an increase in the number of vans at Thorn Farm to sixty was refused by the Council for planning reasons and also on public health grounds. An Appeal was lodged by the owner and as a result a Public Enquiry was held. The Council claimed that further increase in the population in caravans would aggravate the situation created by the already overloaded village sewage disposal works, and that proposals submitted by the applicant for the installation of a sewage plant at the caravan site were not acceptable. These points were upheld and supported the planning objections, resulting in dismissal of the Appeal by the Minister.

Four caravans are actually stationed at Slade Farm since the owner has not yet gone ahead with provision of amenities on the site. The approval given in 1967 for an increase in the number of vans from four to nine was conditional on amenities being provided.

During the season regular visits to the sites showed that conditions were generally satisfactory.

#### Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949

##### Rodents

Most rodent infestations came to our knowledge following complaint. Investigation required survey of 166 properties (including one agricultural) of which 107 showed evidence of infestation by rodents. In a very large number of cases, however, the infestations were of an odd rat or mouse in gardens, and all were satisfactorily dealt with. A complete test bait of the sewer system in the early part of the year gave a negative result.

##### Other Pests

Insect pest control required a considerable amount of work although less than in the previous year, and all complaints were dealt with satisfactorily.

##### Petroleum

The number of licensed premises in the district at the end of the year was thirty, a reduction of one from 1967.

Duties under the Petroleum (Regulation) Acts, 1928 and 1936, were routine except in one case where there was a suspicion of a leakage of petroleum. Investigation by means of nitrogen pressure test showed that there was a leak in a pump suction pipe, and the necessary measures were taken to remedy it. It was not possible to consult with other local authorities regarding the adoption of a new Model Code produced during the year by the Home Office. At the time of writing, arrangements are in hand for a meeting to discuss the new code.

## Explosives

The number of premises registered for keeping fireworks was fourteen, and visits were made to ensure compliance with safety standards.

## Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963

Five premises were registered under the Act during 1968. These, together with one premises outstanding, were given a general inspection, and another fifty-four visits were made to registered premises. Full details of premises, employees, etc., are given in Appendix 'B'.

## Factories Act 1961

Forty-five non-mechanical and sixteen mechanical factories were on the register at the end of the year. Visits were made, twenty-one and two respectively, no notices being served.

## Food and Drugs Act 1955

### Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations 1963

There are no pasteurisation plants in the district and no samples of liquid egg were taken for the Alpha Amylase test.

### Unsound Food

Details of food voluntarily surrendered and destroyed are given in Appendix 'C'.

## Section 16 - Registration

### Cooked and Preserved Food, Sausages, etc.

With the cancellation of one registration, due to discontinuance of the business, and one new registration, the number of premises remained at 17.

### Ice Cream

With four additional registrations during 1968, the total number of registered premises is now 40. Of the four new registrations, one relates to the manufacture of ice cream (cold mix) and the others to storage.

Ten samples from six premises were taken, for examination by the Public Health Laboratory Service. With one exception the ice cream sampled was sold loose, and in two cases (cold mix) it was manufactured on the premises. The difficulty of ensuring adequate sterilising of equipment and utensils is illustrated by the fact that the sample gradings were -

Number of Samples	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4
10	2	2	4	2



In one case a new cold mix soft ice cream machine produced samples of Grades 3 and 4 in spite of careful attention to cleaning routines. The cold mix manufacturer's technical representative visited and suggested measures to improve the quality, but it was not possible to gauge results since there was only a very short time between the visit and the close down of business for the winter.

#### Food Complaints

Four complaints were received during the year; two of mould growth (sausages and sweets); one concerning adherent clay film on the inside of a milk bottle; and the remaining one regarding extraneous glass-like material contained in a portion of cheese spread. This latter case was interesting in that what appeared to be slivers of glass proved on analysis to be crystalline phosphate emulsifying salts, normal ingredients of cheese spread, although something had obviously gone wrong in the manufacturing process for them to appear in this form. This complaint did not, of course, require any action under the Act, although the manufacturers did look for the possible cause of the occurrence. In the other three cases legal action was not taken, warnings being given to those concerned regarding a possible recurrence. In the case of the milk bottle complaint, the company advised that they are to install electronic scanning equipment at the dairy to further reduce the possibility of dirty bottles escaping the notice of 'spotters', now employed.

#### Milk and Dairies

The situation as regards milk distribution in the district remains as previously, the great bulk of milk coming from Exeter and distributed through a local depot. Milk from local producers is also distributed through this depot and one private individual. Investigation for *Brucella abortus* was carried out at two producers' premises. The number of registered dairies in the district remained at five.

#### Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960

The number of premises subject to these Regulations is given in Appendix 'D', which also includes information on visits etc.

The general condition of these premises was, in the main, satisfactory, although a few required improvement. The lack of awareness of the need for good hygienic practises amongst staff and proprietors in these places is the chief difficulty encountered. This can probably only be overcome by education during frequent visits, which is a time consuming and long term process.

Particular attention was given to two catering premises in the district, and efforts to bring about real improvement are in progress.

#### Food Hygiene (Markets, Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations 1968

All premises and vehicles based in the district coming under the provisions of the above Regulations were inspected. Where necessary, action was taken to have the premises or vehicle brought up to the required standard. Total number of visits made in connection with the Regulations was 69.

## Housing

The following action was taken during the year under the Housing Act 1957:

One house and one flat were declared unfit, action to close being deferred pending expiration of the tenancies. In one case the tenant has been re-housed, and an undertaking received from the owner not to use the house for habitation.

Two houses were declared unfit, and demolition order procedure is in progress at the time of writing.

One house subject to an undertaking was renovated with the aid of an improvement grant, and the house having been made fit the undertaking was cancelled.

## Improvement Grants

Very good progress was made with modernisation of the older council houses with the aid of Ministry grants.

Although grants towards the cost of improvement of private properties were again made freely available by the Council, the decline in the number of Discretionary Grants applied for continued - a trend which is occurring throughout the country.

A White Paper issued gave information on intended legislation aimed at stimulating interest in renovating older property by means of higher grants, inclusion of repairs and certain other advantages to owners.

Details of the number of grants dealt with during the year are given in Appendix 'E', which also includes information regarding new dwellings and conversions.

## Nuisances

About 70 complaints received throughout the year necessitated over 200 visits for investigation and follow up. Complaints covered the usual range, and where action was necessary an informal approach produced satisfactory results.

## Public Conveniences

Generally the cleanliness of the conveniences was of a good standard, although with wear and tear and malicious damage, the state of decoration of some of the conveniences was not up to the standard set in the past. The Council has authorised the necessary expenditure to remedy the situation and work is expected to commence shortly.

J. FEE

Public Health Inspector



# APPENDIX 'A'

## PRIVATE WATER SUPPLIES

Salcombe Regis -

Properties connected to spring	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
--------------------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

Harcombe -

Properties connected to main village supply	...	...	...	...	...	8
Other small supplies or wells	...	...	...	...	...	10

Fortescue -

Properties connected	...	...	...	...	...	39
----------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

Other properties in outlying areas with own private supplies	...	...	74
--	-----	-----	----

Total	139
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# APPENDIX 'B'

## THE OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

(a) Registrations and General Inspections -

Class of Premises	Total number of Premises registered at 31.12.68	Number of Registered Premises receiving first general inspection 1968
Offices	41	1
Retail Shops	118	4
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses	2	-
Catering establishments open to the public, Canteens	18	1
Fuel Storage Depots	1	-
Total	180	6

(b) Number of Visits of all kinds	...	...	...	...	59
-----------------------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

(c) Analysis of Persons employed in Registered Premises

Class of Workplace	Number of Persons employed
Offices	194
Retail shops	477
Wholesale departments, Warehouses	17
Catering establishments open to the public	108
Canteens	-
Fuel storage depots	12
Total	808
Males	291
Females	517



APPENDIX 'C'

UNSOUND FOOD - 1968

Examined and Condemned on Voluntary Surrender for Destruction -

	lbs.
(a) Meat at Retail shops ... ..	-
(b) Cooked Meat and Meat products .. ...	6
(c) Canned Meats ... ..	39
(d) Fish ... ..	48
(e) Fruit and Vegetables ... ..	183
(f) Other foods ... ..	130
	<hr/>
Total	406 lbs.
	<hr/>

APPENDIX 'D'

NUMBER OF FOOD PREMISES AND VISITS - 1968

	Number of Premises	Number of Visits
Licensed Hotels ... ..	17	10
Private Hotels ... ..	27	10
Guest Houses ... ..	47	7
Restaurants and Cafes ... ..	21	28
Fish and Chip Shops ... ..	2	9
Butchers ... ..	14	19
Bakers and Confectioners ... ..	8	21
Fishmongers ... ..	3	5
Grocers and General Provisions ... ..	31*	34
School Canteens and Boarding Schools ...	3	4
Greengrocers ... ..	11	11
Public Houses (excluding Hotels with licences)	17	8
Market (Butcher: two Greengrocers) ...	3 †	12

\* Includes five registered as dairies

† Stalls

# APPENDIX 'E'

## HOUSING

### (1) IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

(The summaries show the progress made from 1959, when the Standard Grant Scheme started, to 31st December 1968)

#### (a) Discretionary Grants

Applications, Approvals, and Grants paid under Section 30 of the Housing (Financial Provisions) Act 1958 -

Year	Applications		Completions and Grants Paid	
	Received	Approved	Dwellings Completed	Grants paid £
1959-61	22	19	20	5,190
1962	13	13	8	2,388
1963	4	6	7	2,616
1964	11	11	14	4,534
1965	6	6	8	2,651
1966	6	4	6	1,995
1967	5	5	3	1,200
1968	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>800</u>
Totals	<u>68</u>	<u>66</u>	<u>68</u>	<u>£21,374</u>

### MODERNISATION OF COUNCIL HOUSES

Improvements completed at 31st December 1968

Location	Number of houses
Sid Park Road ... ..	30
Arcot Park ... ..	46
Manstone Avenue ... ..	<u>141</u>
	<u>217</u>

#### (b) Standard Grants

Applications, Approvals, and Grants paid under the House Purchase and Housing Act 1959 -

Applications			Completions and Grants Paid; and Standard Amenities installed							Grants Paid £
Year	Received	Approved	Dwellings Completed	Fixed Bath	Wash-hand Basin	Hot Water	Water Closet	Food Stor- age	Piped Water Supply	
1959-61	48	48	36	33	36	35	11	14	-	3,249
1962	17	11	7	7	7	6	6	5	-	902
1963	19	16	18	16	16	16	9	8	-	1,570
1964	10	8	13	7	11	11	9	7	-	1,104
1965	15	16	10	9	10	10	7	7	-	1,104
1966	6	5	7	6	6	7	5	4	-	758
1967	7	8	7	5	5	5	4	2	1	931
1968	<u>11</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,358</u>
Totals	<u>133</u>	<u>123</u>	<u>108</u>	<u>93</u>	<u>101</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>54</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>£10,976</u>

## (2) BUILDING PROGRAMME

Rate of Building and Conversions - 1959/68

Year	Type	By Local Authority	By Others	Totals	Grand Total
1959	Houses	24 (Flats)	34 (21 Flats)	58	
	Bungalows	-	52	52	
	Conversions	-	4	4	114
1960	Houses	-	35 (21 Flats)	35	
	Bungalows	-	42	42	
	Conversions	-	10	10	87
1961	Houses	18 (Flats)	23	41	
	Bungalows	-	52	52	
	Conversions	-	8	8	101
1962	Houses	76 (6 Flats)	32 (4 Flats)	108	
	Bungalows	-	60	60	
	Conversions	-	9	9	177
1963	Houses	9 (9 Flats)	9 (1 Flat)	18	
	Bungalows	-	46	46	
	Conversions	-	12	12	76
1964	Houses	8 (8 Flats)	12	20	
	Bungalows	-	63	63	
	Conversions	-	26	26	109
1965	Houses	4 (4 Flats)	23 (14 Flats)	27	
	Bungalows	-	112	112	
	Conversions	-	7	7	146
1966	Houses	6 (4 Flats)	18 (10 Flats)	24	
	Bungalows	-	92	92	
	Conversions	-	-	-	116
1967	Houses	2	20 (5 Flats)	22	
	Bungalows	-	49	49	
	Conversions	-	11	11	82
1968	Houses	-	28	28	
	Bungalows	14	74	88	
	Conversions	-	18	18	134
Totals	Houses	147	234	381	
	Bungalows	14	642	656	
	Conversions	-	105	105	1,142

# HONITON RURAL DISTRICT

Area.....	61,260 acres
Population.....	7,410
Number of Parishes.....	22
Rateable Value .....	£186,443
Penny Rate produces .....	£751
General Rate levied.....	9/6d.

## Deaths

1967	37 males, 37 females	...	...	...	...	...	74
	Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	...	10.2
	Comparability factor	...	...	...	...	...	0.93
	Standardised death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	...	9.5
1968	44 males, 37 females	...	...	...	...	...	81
	Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	...	10.9
	Comparability factor	...	...	...	...	...	0.94
	Standardised death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	...	10.3

## Live Births

1967	59 males, 48 females	...	...	...	...	...	107
	6 illegitimate births were registered and are included in the above total of	...	...	...	...	...	107
	Live birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	...	14.7
	Comparability factor	...	...	...	...	...	1.17
	Standardised birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	...	17.2
	Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	...	...	...	...	...	5.6
1968	57 males, 68 females	...	...	...	...	...	125
	11 illegitimate births were registered and are included in the above total of	...	...	...	...	...	125
	Live birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	...	16.9
	Comparability factor	...	...	...	...	...	1.17
	Standardised birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	...	19.7
	Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	...	...	...	...	...	8.8

## Still Births

1967	1 still birth was registered (0 illegitimate)	...	...	...	...	...	1
	Total live and still births	...	...	...	...	...	108
	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	...	...	...	...	...	9.3
1968	2 still births were registered (0 illegitimate)	...	...	...	...	...	2
	Total live and still births	...	...	...	...	...	127
	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	...	...	...	...	...	15.7

## Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age

1967	0 deaths were registered (0 illegitimate)	...	...	...	...	...	0
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	...	nil
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	...	...	nil
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	...	...	...	nil
1968	2 deaths were registered (1 illegitimate)	...	...	...	...	...	2
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	...	16.00
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	...	...	8.8
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	...	...	...	90.9



## Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age

1967	0 deaths were registered (0 illegitimate) ... ..	0
	Neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births ... ..	nil
	Maternal deaths ... ..	nil
1968	1 death was registered (0 illegitimate) ... ..	1
	Neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births ... ..	8.00
	Maternal deaths ... ..	nil

## Deaths of Infants under 1 week of age

1967	0 deaths were registered (0 illegitimate) ... ..	0
	Early neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births ...	nil
	Peri-natal mortality rate ... ..	9.3
1968	0 deaths were registered (0 illegitimate) ... ..	0
	Early neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births ...	nil
	Peri-natal mortality rate ... ..	15.7

## Deaths

The chief causes of death were:

Enteritis and other diarrhoeal diseases ... ..	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach ... ..	1
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ... ..	2
Malignant neoplasm, breast ... ..	3
Leukaemia ... ..	1
Other malignant neoplasms, etc. ... ..	7
Diabetes mellitus ... ..	1
Chronic rheumatic heart disease ... ..	1
Hypertensive disease ... ..	2
Ischaemic heart disease ... ..	21
Other forms of heart disease ... ..	6
Cerebrovascular disease ... ..	7
Other diseases of circulatory system ... ..	2
Influenza ... ..	2
Pneumonia ... ..	7
Bronchitis and emphysema ... ..	3
Other diseases of respiratory system ... ..	1
Intestinal obstruction and hernia ... ..	2
Other diseases of digestive system ... ..	2
Other diseases, genito-urinary system ... ..	1
Congenital anomalies ... ..	1
Motor vehicle accidents ... ..	2
All other accidents ... ..	5

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81

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## Water Supplies

### Public

During the year the East Devon Water Board continued its programme of 3" and 4" main laying to serve the developing estates at Sidmouth Junction.

A new reinforcing main was laid at Payhembury for properties between the village and the vicinity of Leyhill Farm where a supply improvement was required.

The usual mains samples were taken regularly and a high standard of quality maintained.

### Private

Fourteen bacteriological samples were taken from nine sources and three were fit for drinking. The necessary advice was given to improve three well supplies and the remaining three were able to connect to the mains.

The borehole at Dunkeswell Abbey, referred to in the 1967 Report, was sunk and an adequate and fit supply was found. A series of samples taken since then has confirmed this.

## Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

### Capital Schemes

Sewerage Schemes at Upottery and Kerswell were begun in June and both suffered from extremely unseasonable weather and adverse ground conditions.

At Upottery, following the July floods, the Otter seems to have altered its flooding characteristics, and the field in which the sewage works is being built, while previously suffering only slight flooding every few years or so, was flooded to varying extents at least eleven times between June and the end of the year. As a result, I modified the works so that it can withstand a three foot flood without interference with its function, and so far this level has not been exceeded.

At Kerswell difficulties were encountered in at least sixty per cent of the excavation due to the very high water table prevailing. As a result de-watering equipment had to be used as the only means of excavating for a small pumping station in this scheme. I incorporated certain amendments to the pump well design to resist floatation when the well is empty, and they are successful.

The scheme for the provision of a new pumping station and major extensions and replacements to the sewage works at Feniton to deal with the ultimate growth flow from Sidmouth Junction, received Ministerial approval, and work began in December.

The following is a list of villages where sewerage facilities are needed and which this Council has approved in principle:

Dulford	- Scheme prepared
Offwell	- Scheme prepared (replacement of existing works)
Awliscombe	- Scheme prepared
Dunkeswell	
Broadhembury	
Buckerell.	

In addition, in my opinion, the following villages need consideration for the same purpose:

Marsh	- Public Health grounds
Branscombe	- Flood damage
Monkton	- Overloaded existing facilities

#### Sewerage Maintenance

This Council has ten village sewage disposal works, three ejector stations, three pumping stations, and twenty-three small sewage treatment plants. In 1969 two more village sewage works and two more pumping stations will be added, and in 1970 a further large pumping station and a large and rather sophisticated village works will come into operation.

With the increasing and justified attention now being paid to the quality of effluents by the Devon River Authority, we can expect in the future to allocate a greater share of the Council's resources to meeting these standards by more frequent maintenance.

#### Refuse Collection

A fortnightly refuse collection service throughout the district was commenced on 1st March, and after some teething troubles has now settled down.

Already the pressure has begun from Sidmouth Junction for a weekly collection, and due to its suburban characteristics there may be some merit in the claim, though my observation on such claims from an administrative point of view is that discrimination between one village and another in a matter such as refuse collection frequency is a question deserving of the utmost consideration before a decision is made.

#### Scrap Metal Dealers Act 1964

Eight premises are registered under the Act.

The relevance of this Act in public health terms escapes me, particularly in view of the almost total absence of standards of qualification for registration. It clearly aids the police in their control of these activities and, therefore, I consider that they should administer it.

# Factories Act 1961

Premises	Number on Register	Number of Inspections	Number of Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 (without power)	3	1	nil	nil
Section 7 (with power)	24	4	nil	nil
Other premises (Section 7)	5	5	nil	nil
	<u>32</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>nil</u>	<u>nil</u>

Number of cases in which defects were found:

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred to H. M. Inspector	Referred by H. M. Inspector	Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
Sanitary Conveniences (S. 7)					
(a) Insufficient	1	1	-	1	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>
Totals	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>

## Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963

Class of premises	Number of premises registered during the year	Total number of registered premises at end of year	Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year
Offices ... ..	-	1	-
Retail Shops .. ...	-	1	1
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses . ...	-	-	-
Catering establishments open to the public ... ..	1	13	9
Fuel storage depots ... ..	-	-	-
	<u>1</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>10</u>
Totals	<u>1</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>10</u>

Analysis by Workplace of Persons employed in Registered Premises at end of year

Class of workplace	No. of persons employed
Offices ... ..	2
Retail Shops .. ...	2
Wholesale departments, Warehouses ... ..	-
Catering establishments open to the public ... ..	71
Canteens ... ..	-
Fuel storage depots ... ..	-
	<u>75</u>
Total	<u>75</u>
Total Males	<u>26</u>
Total Females	<u>49</u>

Exemptions - nil

Prosecutions - nil



## Housing

### Repairs

Seven detailed inspections of dwellings were made under the Housing Act 1957; informal action was taken in respect of six, and the remaining one was the subject of a formal notice to repair which has since been redeemed.

Repairs to 25 other dwellings were secured by procedures other than those of the Housing Acts.

### New Housing

Sixty-six dwellings were completed by private developers.

Work began on a pair of Old People's dwellings at Dunkeswell, but the scheme prepared for six bungalows at Branscombe suffered a set-back. These six were intended to be built this year but the Ministry quota promulgated during the year did not include them until 1969. I had not designed these bungalows to Parker Morris standards as they were intended for erection before the standards became mandatory in 1969. Due to the delay imposed by the Ministry, the scheme could not be approved for 1969, so I have drawn up a fresh design which does comply.

### Improvement Grants

Discretionary Grants for four houses, totalling £1,170, were paid, and three were approved.

Standard Grants for twenty-two houses, totalling £4,546, were paid, and twenty-two were approved.

### Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949 - Rodent Control

Routine inspections of dwellings, farms and sewers were carried out by the part-time rodent operator and all discovered and reported infestations were dealt with.

### Petroleum (Regulation) Acts 1928 and 1936

One new installation at Yarcombe was tested and approved for licensing.

### Food and Drugs Act 1955

#### Food Hygiene

Ten inspections of food premises were made and minor contraventions of the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations were dealt with informally.

Twenty-four shops are registered for the sale of ice-cream.

#### Surrendered Foods

Almost the entire stock of a grocer's shop, consisting of various quantities of twenty-four different types of food, had to be destroyed following flooding, also 36 lb. of canned tomatoes due to leakage.

## Brucellosis

Samples were taken from six farms at two-monthly intervals. Only one positive result was found and investigations followed to trace the infected animal.

## Nuisances

Thirty-five visits were made in respect of twenty-five complaints of nuisances, as follows:

Noise	...	...	...	...	...	2
Offensive smell	...	...	...	...	...	2
Accumulation or deposit	...	...	...	...	...	1
Dead animals	...	...	...	...	...	2
Foul ditch	...	...	...	...	...	1
Drainage	...	...	...	...	...	17

## Diseases of Animals (Waste Foods) Order 1957

The only swill-boiling unit in this area was inspected following a complaint of unboiled swill being fed to the pigs.

The equipment and lay-out of the swill-boiling premises are adequate, but the attitude of the user varies from reluctance to apathy, though he constantly maintains that he complies with the Order.

I am assured that there are no bacteriological or chemical tests which can prove whether or not swill has been boiled for an hour, and I would not be prepared to give evidence on the basis of visual inspections. Raw cabbage stalks, potato peelings, or cut bread in wrappers are not swill, and provided they are kept, or even claimed to have been kept, separate from the swill before they are fed to the pigs, would not present evidence of inadequate boiling.

## Caravans and Camping

The annual survey of caravans, etc., was carried out and site licence compliance checked on existing sites.

Improvements and enlargement of a sanitary block on the site at Weston, Branscombe, was approved, and the site licence amended to cater for the larger number of caravans permitted.

The Council applied for, and eventually received, planning consent for five years for the gypsy site at Thornhills, Farway. Protracted negotiations have since been taking place with the owner of the site to acquire a lease or the freehold of the land. Until agreement is reached nothing can be done by the Council either to control or improve this caravan site.

## Flooding - 10th July 1968

A phenomenal rainstorm, followed by surcharging of all the rivers and watercourses, caused widespread damage throughout the eastern half of the rural district. Many road bridges and miles of roads were destroyed; over a hundred dwellings were substantially flooded; and two of the Council's

sewage works were badly damaged. Due to the disruption of road communication in the area the first day or so of the emergency works were performed piecemeal, but in a short time the drying-out and cleaning arrangements were running reasonably smoothly. As soon as possible after the human needs were met the sewage works were both attended to - Combe Raleigh permanently and Branscombe temporarily. The ultimate repair or, possibly, replacement of the Branscombe works will be the subject of investigation in 1969.

J. D. HOPGOOD,

Public Health Inspector

# HONITON BOROUGH

Area.....	3,125 acres
Population .....	5,800
Rateable Value .....	£230,166
Penny Rate produces .....	£857
General Rate levied .....	10/8d.

## Deaths

1967	35 males, 36 females	...	...	...	...	...	71
	Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population						13.5
	Comparability factor	...	...	...	...	...	0.48
	Standardised death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	...	6.5
1968	35 males, 40 females	...	...	...	...	...	75
	Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population						12.9
	Comparability factor	...	...	...	...	...	0.59
	Standardised death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	...	7.6

## Live Births

1967	53 males, 27 females	...	...	...	...	...	80
	4 illegitimate births were registered and are included in the above total of	...	...	...	...	...	80
	Live birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	...	15.2
	Comparability factor	...	...	...	...	...	1.08
	Standardised birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	...	16.4
	Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	...					5.00
1968	65 males, 68 females	...	...	...	...	...	133
	7 illegitimate births were registered and are included in the above total of	...	...	...	...	...	133
	Live birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	...	22.9
	Comparability factor	...	...	...	...	...	1.01
	Standardised birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	...	23.2
	Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	...					5.3

## Still Births

1967	0 still births were registered	...	...	...	...	0
	Total live and still births	...	...	...	...	80
	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	...	...	...	...	nil
1968	2 still births were registered	...	...	...	...	2
	Total live and still births	...	...	...	...	135
	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	...	...	...	...	14.8

## Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age

1967	1 death was registered (0 illegitimate)	...	...	...	1
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	12.5
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 legitimate live births	...			13.2
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...			nil
1968	2 deaths were registered (0 illegitimate)	...	...	...	2
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	15.00
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 legitimate live births	...			15.9
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...			nil



### Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age

1967	1 death was registered (0 illegitimate)	...	...	...	1
	Neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births .	...	...	...	12.5
	Maternal deaths	...	...	...	nil
1968	1 death was registered (0 illegitimate)	...	...	...	1
	Neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	7.5
	Maternal deaths	...	...	...	nil

### Deaths of Infants under 1 week of age

1967	0 deaths were registered (0 illegitimate)	...	...	...	0
	Early neo-natal mortality rate	...	...	...	nil
	Peri-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	nil
1968	1 death was registered (0 illegitimate)	...	...	...	1
	Early neo-natal mortality rate	...	...	...	1
	Peri-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	22.6

### Deaths

The chief causes of death were:

Enteritis and other diarrhoeal diseases	...	...	...	...	1
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	...	...	...	...	1
Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	...	...	2
Leukaemia	...	...	...	...	1
Other malignant neoplasms, etc.	...	...	...	...	4
Diabetes mellitus	...	...	...	...	1
Anaemias	...	...	...	...	1
Other diseases of nervous system etc.	...	...	...	...	3
Chronic rheumatic heart disease	...	...	...	...	1
Ischaemic heart disease	...	...	...	...	22
Other forms of heart disease	...	...	...	...	5
Cerebrovascular disease	...	...	...	...	16
Other diseases of circulatory system	...	...	...	...	4
Influenza	...	...	...	...	2
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	3
Bronchitis and emphysema	...	...	...	...	3
Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	...	...	1
Other diseases of digestive system	...	...	...	...	1
Birth injury, difficult labour, etc.	...	...	...	...	1
Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	...	1
Suicide and self-inflicted injuries	...	...	...	...	1
					—
					75
					—

## Housing

## General

During the course of the year numerous inspections and visits have been made in connection with the Housing Acts, the main details of which are as follows:

(i)	Houses inspected in connection with the Council's housing points scheme ... ..	16
(ii)	Premises inspected under Section 9 and subsequently made fit ... ..	1
(iii)	Standard Improvement Grant applications ... ..	8
(iv)	Routine housing inspections ... ..	102
(v)	Visits in connection with Schedules of Work to make premises fit for human habitation ... ..	12

Further visits made resulted in:

(a)	Houses being demolished in clearance areas ... ..	5
(b)	Houses demolished after the service of Demolition Orders ... ..	3
(c)	Demolition Orders served ... ..	5
(d)	Undertakings not to re-let obtained ... ..	4
(e)	Closing Orders served ... ..	4
(f)	Schedules to render premises fit accepted . ... ..	4
(g)	Closed property made fit ... ..	1

## Mortgage Facilities and Improvement Grants

Once again the number of applications for Improvement Grants has been very low; this will be seen from the table set out hereunder. In addition to the one mortgage application listed in this table, twelve intending applicants did not make a formal application because of the restriction of the amount of money available to the Council for this purpose.

	Number of applications	Number approved	Number refused	Value approved £
Standard Grants ... ..	2	2	nil	310
Discretionary Grants ... ..	nil	nil	nil	nil
Loan on Repairs ... ..	1	1	nil	150
Mortgages for House Purchase	1	1	nil	2,500

## Rent Act 1957

No applications were received

## Houses in Multiple Occupation

One notice was served under Section 15 of the 1961 Housing Act.

## Caravans and Camping

The residential caravan site in the Borough continues to be licensed for 58 caravans and has been maintained in a satisfactory condition during the period under review. The holiday caravan site which can accommodate 38 caravans or tents, which is in the same ownership as the residential site, has also been maintained in a satisfactory manner. Six cases were dealt with by the department of caravans being illegally parked within the Borough. All were eventually moved to alternative accommodation.

## Common Lodging Houses

There are none in the Borough.

## Old Persons' Accommodation

Apart from Old Persons' Accommodation provided by the Honiton Borough Council, this continues to consist of one private Home and one under the control of the Devon County Council. The second Devon County Council Home mentioned in last year's Report appears to be some way off and this is to be regretted. The Housing Committee are turning their attention to the provision of Old Persons' Accommodation, and, subject to Ministry approval, it is hoped to go to tender early in 1969 for a re-development scheme at Queen Street (Stage 1). This will provide eighteen flats for elderly people and ten flats for younger people. In addition to this the Committee are giving thought to the provision of additional Old Persons' Accommodation at Orchard Way.

## General Comments

The very active policy of eliminating sub-standard premises and building new Council houses, together with the substantial contribution by private enterprise over the past two or three years, have all combined to produce, with few minor exceptions, a very satisfactory and healthy housing position in the Borough.

## Public Health

### General

Honiton continues to be a healthy town, and the standard of Public Health is good.

### Water Supply (Public)

The statutory undertakers continue to be the East Devon Water Board, and the quality, quantity and mains pressure have all been satisfactory during the year.

Number of dwelling houses served from the Water Board's mains - 1,600.

Number of population supplied:

(a) Direct to the houses	5,770
(b) By means of stand pipes	30

## Water Supply (Private)

Ten visits were made to private water supplies and numerous samples taken. Informal action is being taken to ensure that the supplies are satisfactory for human consumption.

## Bathing Facilities

Technical advice and assistance has again been given to the Swimming Pool Trustees.

## Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

During the course of the year I advised the Council that until such time as further works of improvement and enlargement have been carried out at the Sewerage Works, no substantial planning applications should be approved outside the existing town plan area. As a result of this advice instructions have been given to the Consulting Engineers and preliminary enquiries made of the Ministry to carry out further additional work estimated to cost £18,000. By the addition of carpet waste from a nearby carpet factory, the Paxman Sludge Concentrator is now carrying out its duties very efficiently, but we still find it necessary to eliminate the filtrate water from the recirculating system. This filtrate water is discharged into an adjoining field and irrigated, but this field will not accept the filtrate indefinitely, and it is therefore imperative that the extension to the Works be carried out very quickly as I am afraid that some time in the future the filtrate will not be absorbed, and we shall find that it is discharging direct into the River Otter. Samples of the effluent from the Works have generally given results within or just outside the Royal Commission standard, but it must be remembered that the Works were designed for six thousand five hundred people, and the present population of the town is approximately five thousand two hundred and fifty and that there is land available for the building of a considerable number of houses within the present town plan. The sixty acre extension scheme must also be borne in mind.

## Public Conveniences

Vandalism during the past year has been greater than usual. Nevertheless the two blocks of conveniences have been maintained in a satisfactory condition. Steps are being taken for conversion to decimalisation.

## Diseases of Animals (Waste Food) Order, 1957

There are no licences in force in the area.

## Refuse Collection and Disposal

The town has continued to grow and consequently the number of man-hours required to maintain the refuse collection service has increased. Once again the collection service has proceeded most smoothly with very few complaints, and the refuse collection staff are to be congratulated on their achievements.

We continue to dispose of our refuse at the Sidmouth Urban District Council's tip at Knapp Copse, and this arrangement is proving most satisfactory.

## Scrap Metal Dealers Act 1964

There is one registered dealer.



# Factories Act 1961

Premises	Number on Register	Number of Inspections	Number of Notices
Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are enforced by the Local Authority	3	2	nil
Factories not included in above in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	38	18	nil
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	9	82	nil

Number of cases in which defects were found:

Particulars (1)	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	Referred by H.M. Inspector (5)	Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
Want of cleanliness (S. 1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S. 2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S. 3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S. 4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S. 6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S. 7)					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act	-	-	-	-	-

## Sections 133 and 134 - Outworkers

Nature of work	Section 133 Number of outworkers in August list re-quired by Section 133 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	Section 134 Number of instances of work in un-wholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecu-tions
Wearing apparel	1	-	-	-	-	-
Making nets other than wire	-	-	-	-	-	-

# Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963

No applications for exemptions were received. The table set out below shows the number of inspections, visits, etc., made by the department:

TABLE A - Registrations and General Inspections

Class of premises	Number of premises newly registered during the year	Total number of registered premises at end of year	Number of registered premises receiving one or more general inspections during the year
Offices ... ..	1	24	7
Retail Shops ... ..	1	53	20
Wholesale Shops ... ..	-	-	-
Catering establishments open to the public, Canteens	-	6	6
Fuel storage depots ... ..	-	-	-
	—	—	—
Totals	2	83	33
	—	—	—

TABLE B - Number of Visits of all kinds (including General Inspections) to Registered Premises - 35.

TABLE C - Analysis by Workplace of Persons employed in Registered Premises at end of year

Class of workplace	No. of persons employed
Offices ... ..	114
Retail Shops ... ..	234
Wholesale departments, Warehouses ...	-
Catering establishments open to the public	56
Canteens ... ..	-
Fuel storage depots ... ..	-
	—
Total	404
	—
Total Males	168
	—
Total Females	236
	—

Once again no formal action has been necessary where premises have been found not to comply with the Act: informal action has proved sufficient.

## Agriculture (Safety, Health and Welfare Provisions) Act 1956

The number of premises in the Borough affected by the above Act is 33. No cases came to light during the period under review where the Act was not being complied with.

## Petroleum

Twenty-six visits were made to garages. A number of infringements were found and the necessary informal action has been, or is being, taken.

## Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949

The Council's part-time rodent operator visited nine premises as a result of nine complaints received. Six of these premises were found to be infested by rats and three by mice, and all were satisfactorily treated on a rechargeable basis. A further 42 premises were inspected by the department. Some of these were found to be infested and the occupiers used the services of a private operator.

The sewers were not test-baited during the year in view of the very highly satisfactory conditions found in the previous year.

## Fireworks

Seven premises were licensed to store and sell fireworks. Inspections were made in all cases and conditions found to be satisfactory.

One additional premises was registered for keeping mixed explosives, making a total of three.

## Safety of Buildings

Ten visits were made to assess reported danger from buildings.

## Trade Effluent

Twenty-six visits were made to trade premises regarding trade effluent.

## Odours

Six visits were made following complaints of foul smells.

## Derelict Cars

Two cars were abandoned on Council Car Parks, but in each case the owner was traced and the car removed.

## Floods

The exceptional floods of 10th July resulted in the department being faced with work and problems of considerable magnitude.

## Food and Drugs Act 1955

The department still does not carry out the number of routine inspections of food premises that I would like. This is unavoidable because of other duties, but is partially off-set by the fact that generally speaking the traders themselves set a very good standard as far as food hygiene is concerned. No formal or informal action has been necessary.

The following premises are registered:

For the preparation or manufacture of sausages, pressed, pickled or preserved foods ...	12
For the sale of ice cream ... ..	24

A number of food premises situated at the west end of the town were seriously affected by flooding on 10th July. A considerable quantity of foodstuffs was affected by water contaminated by sewage and was condemned.

#### Meat Inspection

The year has shown a fluctuation in the types of animals being slaughtered. Whilst the number of cattle slaughtered has fallen, there has been an increase in the number of both pigs and sheep slaughtered. The overall result of this has been an increase of approximately 3% in meat inspection for the year. The modernisation of Messrs. C.H. Baker's slaughterhouse has now been completed and is operating on the "line" system. As the carcasses travel through the slaughter hall each man performs a particular task as part of a team. Wiping cloths are no longer permitted, the carcasses being sprayed by high pressure water jets. The quality of meat produced at both slaughterhouses is of a very high standard.

Table of Kill figures, Inspection figures and Unsound Meat

	Cattle	Cows	Calves	Pigs	Sheep and Lambs
Number killed ... ..	2,094	231	96	11,058	15,152
Number inspected... ..	2,094	231	96	11,058	15,152

#### All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis:

Whole carcasses condemned ... ..	5	32	3	60	59
Part carcasses condemned ... ..	12	26	-	25	42
Offal condemned ... ..	129	96	4	734	924

Percentage of the number inspected  
affected with a disease other than  
Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis

6.7%	53%	4.2%	6.9%	6.4%
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#### Tuberculosis only:

Whole carcasses condemned ... ..	-	-	-	-	-
Part carcasses condemned ... ..	-	-	-	21	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ...	-	-	-	0.2%	-

#### Cysticercosis only:

Localised ... ..	5	-	-	-	-
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The following meat and offal was voluntarily surrendered from the two slaughterhouses:



						Carcase Meat lbs.	Offal lbs.
Cattle (except cows)	...	...	...	...	...	3,509	1,476
Cows	...	...	...	...	...	15,342	2,080
Calves	...	...	...	...	...	273	38
Pigs and Sows	...	...	...	...	...	8,730	3,393
Sheep and Lambs	...	...	...	...	...	2,923	3,255
						<hr/> 30,777 <hr/>	<hr/> 10,242 <hr/>

Total carcase meat condemned	...	...	...	...	...	...	13.7 tons
Total offal condemned	...	...	...	...	...	...	4.6 tons

#### Poultry Inspection

There are no poultry processing premises within the district.

#### Liquid Egg(Pasteurisation) Regulations 1967

There are still no premises used for liquid egg processing within the Borough.

#### Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960

##### Number of Food Premises:

Type	No. in area	Fitted to comply with Reg.16	Reg. 19 applies	Fitted to comply with Reg.19	No. of Inspection
Hotels, Clubs and Licensed Premises	16	16	16	16	6
Restaurants and Cafes	12	12	12	12	6
Canteens	7	7	7	7	4
Bakeries	3	3	3	3	2
Butchers	7	7	7	7	4
Dairies	8	8	8	8	8
Fishmongers	2	2	1	1	2
Grocers	8	8	7	7	2
Confectioners	10	10	7	7	2
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	7	7	-	-	7
Mobile Shops	3	3	-	-	1

##### Unsound Food surrendered or condemned:

Canned Meats	222 lbs.	Frozen Foods	142 lbs.
Other Canned Foods	354 lbs.	Other Foods	3,959 lbs.

There were five complaints made to the department with regard to foodstuffs purchased in local shops. All cases were thoroughly investigated and four were found to be justified. Advice was given regarding the handling of food and the retailers were made fully aware of their responsibilities.

The amount of food condemned this year has risen sharply, chiefly due to the flooding of shops and the contamination of stock. There has also been an increase in frozen foods condemned due to the failure of deep freeze cabinets.

#### Conclusion

I take the opportunity to thank my staff for their help and assistance during the year.

A. J. C. NEX, M.A.P.H.I.

Chief Public Health Inspector



# OTTERY ST. MARY URBAN DISTRICT

Area .....	10,008 acres
Population .....	5,500
Rateable Value .....	£209,944
Penny Rate produces .....	£ 838
General Rate levied .....	10/8d.

## Deaths

1967	31 males, 17 females	...	...	...	...	...	...	48
	Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	...	...	9.4
	Comparability factor	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.61
	Standardised death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	...	...	5.7
1968	34 males, 30 females	...	...	...	...	...	...	64
	Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	...	...	11.64
	Comparability factor	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.64
	Standardised death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	...	...	7.5

## Live Births

1967	43 males, 34 females	...	...	...	...	...	...	77
	5 illegitimate births were registered and are included in the above total of	...	...	...	...	...	...	77
	Live birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	...	...	15.1
	Comparability factor	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.49
	Standardised birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	...	...	22.5
	Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	6.5
1968	40 males, 34 females	...	...	...	...	...	...	74
	1 illegitimate birth was registered and is included in the above total of	...	...	...	...	...	...	74
	Live birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	...	...	13.5
	Comparability factor	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.44
	Standardised birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	...	...	19.2
	Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.4

## Still Births

1967	0 still births were registered (0 illegitimate)	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
	Total live and still births	...	...	...	...	...	...	77
	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	...	...	...	...	...	...	nil
1968	0 still births were registered (0 illegitimate)	..	...	...	...	...	...	0
	Total live and still births	...	...	...	...	...	...	74
	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	...	...	...	...	...	...	nil

## Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age

1967	0 deaths were registered (0 illegitimate)	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	nil
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	nil
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	nil
1968	1 death was registered (0 illegitimate)	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	13.5
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	13.7
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	....	...	...	...	...	nil



### Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age

1967	0 deaths were registered (0 illegitimate) ... ..	0
	Neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births ... ..	nil
	Maternal deaths ... ..	nil
1968	1 death was registered (0 illegitimate) ... ..	1
	Neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births ... ..	13.5
	Maternal deaths ... ..	nil

### Deaths of Infants under 1 week of age

1967	0 deaths were registered (0 illegitimate) ... ..	0
	Early neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births . ...	nil
	Peri-natal mortality rate ... ..	nil
1968	0 deaths were registered (0 illegitimate) . ... ..	0
	Early neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births . ...	nil
	Peri-natal mortality rate ... ..	nil

### Deaths

The chief causes of death were:

Malignant neoplasm, stomach...	3
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus..	4
Malignant neoplasm, breast ...	2
Malignant neoplasm, uterus ...	1
Other malignant neoplasms, etc. ...	5
Benign and unspecified neoplasms ...	1
Anaemias ...	1
Chronic rheumatic heart disease ...	2
Hypertensive disease ...	1
Ischaemic heart disease ...	17
Other forms of heart disease ...	2
Cerebrovascular disease ...	7
Other diseases of circulatory system ...	4
Influenza ...	3
Pneumonia ...	3
Bronchitis and emphysema ...	3
Peptic ulcer ...	1
Intestinal obstruction and hernia ...	1
Other diseases, genito-urinary system ...	2
Diseases of musculo-skeletal system ...	1

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64

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## Water Supply

Mains water supplied by the East Devon Water Board has continued to be satisfactory throughout the year, and has been available and connected to all new dwellings constructed during 1968.

Following the flooding of the River Otter in July, the water from a shallow well serving two cottages in Tipton St. John was sampled and the results of analysis showed it to be grossly polluted. The well had been completely submerged to a depth of some four feet, and the likelihood that this had caused pollution was confirmed. Following the complete co-operation of the two owners of the properties concerned these tenanted cottages were connected to the mains supply and the well is now disused.

The Council housing estate at Alfington, consisting of ten dwellings, is still supplied from a nearby borehole and regular investigation has shown the water to be satisfactory.

The complaint of a bad-tasting water supply was investigated and the cause found to be pollution by bats in a covered storage tank in the roof of a dwelling. Two of the creatures had crawled up the overflow pipe and into the tank. Precautions were taken to prevent a recurrence of this nuisance.

### Approximate number of dwellings within the Urban District:

Supplied by mains water...	...	...	...	...	1,923
Estimated population	...	...	...	...	4,890
Supplied by private wells or springs	.	...	...		228
Estimated population	...	...	...	...	535

### Bacteriological Examinations

Three samples of water were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for examination. The sample taken of the mains supply of the East Devon Water Board was reported to be entirely satisfactory, as also was the sample taken from a private deep well serving an owner-occupied house. The sample taken from the private shallow well already referred to proved to be unsatisfactory, containing Coliform bacilli with bacterium Coli (Type 1). An alternative temporary supply was arranged until the properties were connected to the mains supply.

## Sewage Disposal

At last the proposed West Hill Sewerage Scheme has been given the "go ahead".

The contract for the scheme went out to tender at the end of the year, the site of the proposed works having been cleared earlier by the Council. Arrangements for the appointment of a resident Engineer to supervise the contractual work of the scheme have been made.

In March the steady progress of the arrangements being made to install the scheme was placed in jeopardy when the Council were required to give evidence that there was an immediate danger to public health. Unless this could be done, we were told the Minister could not justify the capital expenditure involved. Representations were made to him by the Council giving such evidence, and our case was proven.

The Council's Consulting Engineers have been instructed to carry out a survey for the sewerage requirements of the North Ward. This Ward presents special problems, being made up of three separate hamlets, namely Alfington, Fenny Bridges and Gosford with Fairmile.

The Consulting Engineers have also been asked to submit a revised report on a scheme for the sewerage of the Gerway Valley and the extension of the Town Sewerage Scheme to allow for continued development.

The July flood completely submerged the Sewerage Disposal Works, both in the Town and in Tipton St. John. The flood water damaged the motors and ejector stations, but emergency works were carried out and both plants were kept in operation and were soon back in normal working order.

#### Refuse Disposal

The weekly collection of household and trade refuse in the Town area, and the fortnightly collection in the country areas, have been satisfactorily maintained.

Disposal by controlled tipping has continued at the Chineway Refuse Tip.

#### Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949 - Rodent Control

The Urban District is divided into twelve "Rodent Control" areas, but following the retirement of the part-time Rodent Operator the usual routine surveys could not be completely maintained.

A new operator has now been trained and he will be carrying out this duty. However, a service of rodent control was maintained throughout the year by the Council, each case being personally supervised by a member of the Public Health Inspectorate.

Forty-two complaints of rats and seven complaints of mice were received and the necessary treatment carried out.

#### Factories Act 1961 - Inspection of Factories and Workshops

Premises	Number on Register	Number of Inspections	Number of Formal Notices
Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are enforced by the Local Authority	-	-	-
Factories not included in above in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	23	77	-
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority; Building sites, etc.	21	57	-

#### Housing

Work is nearing completion on the Council's estate development of 34 Old Person's dwellings, consisting of bungalows, flats and houses. Many are already occupied.

No formal action has been taken, nor Clearance Areas and Demolition Orders made during the year. Complaints of defects in private tenanted accommodation were satisfactorily dealt with by informal action.

#### Standard Grants

Number of dwellings improved ... ..	5
Owner/occupier ... ..	3
Tenanted ... ..	2
Total amount paid in Grants ... ..	£777

The Council continued to adhere to its previous decision not to adopt the provisions of the Housing Acts dealing with Discretionary Grants.

#### Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963

##### Inspection of Offices and Shops

Class of Premises	Number of premises registered during the year	Total No. of registered premises at end of the year	Number of registered premises inspected
Offices ... ..	-	12	12
Retail Shops ... ..	2	33	33
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses ...	-	4	4
Catering establishments open to the public, Canteens ... ..	-	7	7
	<hr/> 2 <hr/>	<hr/> 56 <hr/>	<hr/> 56 <hr/>

Number of visits of all kinds by Inspectors to registered premises - 113.

##### Analysis of persons employed in registered premises:

Class of workplace	No. of persons employed
Offices ... ..	43
Retail Shops ... ..	112
Wholesale departments, Warehouses ... ..	14
Catering establishments open to the public ...	17
Canteens ... ..	-
Fuel storage depots ... ..	-
	<hr/>
Total	186
	<hr/>
Total Males	72
	<hr/>
Total Females	114
	<hr/>

#### Slaughterhouses

There were no changes of note to the three small private slaughterhouses in the Town area.



## Meat Inspection

## Carcases and offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part -

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed ... ..	624	20	2,118	1,208
Number inspected .. ...	624	20	2,118	1,208
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis:				
Whole carcases condemned ... ..	1	-	2	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ... ..	91	3	224	95
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis	14.74%	15%	10.67%	7.95%
Tuberculosis only:				
Whole carcases condemned ... ..	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ... ..	-	-	-	8
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ...	-	-	-	0.66%
Cysticercosis only:				
Localised ... ..	7	-	-	-

## Condemnations -

	lbs. wt.
Beef (including offal) ... ..	1,606
Mutton and Lamb ... ..	501
Pork ... ..	531
Veal ... ..	19
Miscellaneous (canned meat and quick frozen foods) ... ..	76
	<hr/>
	2,733 lbs.
	<hr/>

## Food Premises

Routine inspections of food shops and food preparation establishments have been carried out. Contraventions of the Food Hygiene Regulations noted during these inspections have been dealt with by informal action.

## Nuisances

Thirty complaints were received, consisting of choked drains, fleas, accumulations of rubbish, housing defects, filthy premises and mosquitoes. All were satisfactorily dealt with, in some cases following advice, and in other cases by informal action.

## General

1968 will be remembered in Ottery St. Mary as the year of the flood. On 11th July, after torrential rain, the River Otter burst its banks and flooded the valley, causing damage in our district from Fenny Bridges, through Ottery St. Mary Town, down to Tipton St. John. The mains water supply and sewage treatment plants were damaged at many points. Dwellings and business premises were submerged, with resultant loss and damage to property and structure. Agricultural harvests, especially hay, were ruined, and cattle and other livestock were swilled along the valley towards the sea.

Praise must go to those who gave such prompt assistance and so much voluntary help in cleaning up the area and attending to the damaged services. This must have contributed to the avoidance of the spread of infection.

## Staff

There were no staff changes during 1968.

L. OSBORNE

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector  
(for W. E. Glover)



# SEATON URBAN DISTRICT

Area .....	1,178 acres
Population .....	3,840
Rateable Value .....	£229, 378
Penny Rate produces.....	£ 920
General Rate levied .....	14s.

## Deaths

1967	27 males, 42 females	...	...	...	...	...	69
	Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population						18.4
	Comparability factor	...	...	...	...	...	0.43
	Standardised death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	...	7.9
1968	27 males, 35 females	...	...	...	...	...	62
	Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population						16.1
	Comparability factor	...	...	...	...	...	0.45
	Standardised death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	...	7.3

## Live Births

1967	16 males, 15 females	...	...	...	...	...	31
	1 illegitimate birth was registered and is included in the above total of	...	...	...	...	...	31
	Live birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	...	8.3
	Comparability factor	...	...	...	...	...	1.64
	Standardised birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	...	13.6
	Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births .	...	...	...	...	...	3.2
1968	19 males, 13 females	...	...	...	...	...	32
	4 illegitimate births were registered and are included in the above total of	...	...	...	...	...	32
	Live birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	...	8.3
	Comparability factor	...	...	...	...	...	1.64
	Standardised birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	...	13.7
	Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births .	...	...	...	...	...	12.5

## Still Births

1967	0 still births were registered (0 illegitimate)	...	...	...	...	...	0
	Total live and still births	...	...	...	...	...	31
	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	...	...	...	...	...	nil
1968	0 still births were registered (0 illegitimate)	...	...	...	...	...	0
	Total live and still births	...	...	...	...	...	32
	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	...	...	...	...	...	nil

## Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age

1967	1 death was registered (0 illegitimate)	...	...	...	...	...	1
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	...	32.00
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	...	...	33.3
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births ..	...	...	...	...	...	nil
1968	0 deaths were registered (0 illegitimate)	...	...	...	...	...	0
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	...	nil
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	...	...	nil
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births ..	...	...	...	...	...	nil



### Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age

1967	1 death was registered (0 illegitimate)	...	...	...	1
	Neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	32.00
	Maternal deaths	...	...	...	nil
1968	0 deaths were registered (0 illegitimate)	...	...	...	0
	Neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	nil
	Maternal deaths	...	...	...	nil

### Deaths of Infants under 1 week of age

1967	1 death was registered (0 illegitimate)	...	...	...	1
	Early neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	32.00
	Peri-natal mortality rate	...	...	...	32.00
1968	0 deaths were registered (0 illegitimate)	...	...	...	0
	Early neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births.	...	...	...	nil
	Peri-natal mortality rate	...	...	...	nil

### Deaths

The chief causes of death were:

Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	...	...	...	1
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	...	...	...	...	3
Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	...	...	...	1
Leukaemia	...	...	...	...	...	1
Other malignant neoplasms, etc....	...	...	...	...	...	5
Ischaemic heart disease	...	...	...	...	...	16
Other forms of heart disease	...	...	...	...	...	7
Cerebrovascular disease	...	...	...	...	...	9
Other diseases of circulatory system	...	...	...	...	...	3
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	3
Bronchitis and emphysema	...	...	...	...	...	5
Peptic ulcer	...	...	...	...	...	1
Other diseases of digestive system	...	...	...	...	...	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	...	...	1
Other diseases, genito-urinary system..	...	...	...	...	...	1
Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	...	...	1
All other accidents	...	...	...	...	...	1
Suicide and self-inflicted injuries..	...	...	...	...	...	2

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62  
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# Annual Report of the Public Health Inspector

As your part-time Public Health Inspector I have to report as follows:

## Public Health Inspections (including re-inspections):

	Number of inspections
General Inspections and nuisances ... ..	71
Official search ... ..	2
Removal through streets of offensive matter ... ..	3
Inspection of piggeries ... ..	9
Factory Acts ... ..	7
Pet Shops ... ..	1
Matters connected with sewers and drains .. ...	39
Food Hygiene Regulations and unsound food. ... ..	44
Markets, Stalls and Delivery Vehicle Regulations ... ..	11
Housing defects ... ..	10
Rent Act inspections ... ..	3
Insect pests and pigeon nuisances ... ..	10
Infectious disease ... ..	4
Toilets in cafes and on caravan sites ... ..	7
Rodent control ... ..	14
Other inspections listed below under separate headings ...	98
	<hr/>
	333
	<hr/>

## Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963

TABLE A - Registrations and General Inspections

Class of premises	Number of premises newly registered during the year	Total number of registered premises	Number of registered premises receiving visits during the year
Offices ... ..	3	25	14
Retail Shops ... ..	4	58	28
Wholesale shops and Warehouses	-	-	-
Catering establishments open to the public ... ..	1	18	6
Fuel storage depots ... ..	-	2	1
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	8	103 *	49
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

\* This is the total after deleting from the register 6 no longer coming under the Act.

TABLE B - Number of Visits of all kinds to Registered Premises - 67

TABLE C - Analysis by Workplace of Persons employed in Registered Premises:

Class of workplace	Number of persons employed	
	Male	Female
Offices ... ..	52	53
Retail Shops ... ..	86	141
Catering establishments ... ..	30	64
Fuel storage depots ... ..	9	1
	<hr/> 177	<hr/> 259

Informal action was taken wherever necessary to secure compliance with the Act and Regulations made thereunder. No exemptions were sought nor were there any prosecutions under the Act. No accidents were reported.

#### Factories Act 1961

Premises	Number on register	Number of inspections	Number of notices
Factories in which mechanical power is not used ... ..	1	-	-
Factories where power is used ...	21	7	-
Other premises (including building sites) ... ..	5	-	-
	<hr/> 27	<hr/> 7	<hr/> -

There were no cases calling for formal action.

#### Sections 133 and 134 - Outworkers

Nature of Work	Number of Outworkers
Wearing apparel	1

#### Housing

No Council-owned dwellings were built during the year. There were ten inspections in respect of minor defects in dwellings.

#### Common Lodging Houses

There are none in the Urban District.

#### Water Supply

No samples were taken by this department as the East Devon Water Board do their own sampling and chemical and bacteriological examinations. So far as is known the supply has been satisfactory in quality and quantity. There was no known contamination. All dwellings in the town have a piped supply of water from the Board's mains direct to the houses.

#### Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

During the year the Council's Contractors, Messrs. Ruddock & Meighan, continued the construction of the new sewage works and also laid new sewers in Harepath Road, Barnards Lane, Court Lane, Cross Street, Beer Road and Old Beer Road.

## Refuse Collection and Disposal

Refuse collection and disposal is under the control of the Surveyor and proceeds satisfactorily.

## Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960

The inspection of food premises continues. The following is a revised list of food premises subject to the above Regulations:

Type	Fitted to comply with Reg. 16	Reg. 19 applies	Fitted to comply with Reg. 19
19 Restaurants or Cafes ... ..	19	19	19
38 Food shops, including Chemists' and Sweet shops ... ..	38	32	30
8 Food kiosks ... ..	6	5	5
5 Hotels (including 4 hotel bars) ...	5	5	5
1 Holiday Camp ... ..	1	1	1
2 Public Houses ... ..	2	2	2
2 Club Bars ... ..	2	2	2

## Liquid Egg(Pasteurisation)Regulations 1967

There are no egg pasteurisation plants or poultry processing stations in the Urban District.

## Food and Drugs Act 1955

There were nine certificates issued in respect of condemned food - mostly tinned - voluntarily surrendered.

Complaints were received of (a) a slug in loose frozen peas, and (b) a copper staple in sultanas. Suitable action by way of warning was taken in both cases.

## Milk

There are on the register ten distributors of milk with premises in Seaton; there is one farm dairy in Seaton, and one purveyor of milk from outside the district. There were two complaints of dirty milk bottles. One sample of milk was submitted for examination for *Brucella abortus*, with negative results. Routine samples were taken by the N.A.A.S. by arrangement with the M.O.H., and occasional samples by the Devon County Council Health Department.

## Ice Cream

There are no ice cream processing plants.

## Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949 - Rodent Control.

In addition to inspections made by me, including properties inspected during the course of visits for other purposes, the rodent operator was called in and treated 33 properties for rats or mice. The sewers have twice been treated but there was very little evidence of rats.



At the beginning of the year one of the Ministry's staff gave a two-day course of instruction to our new operator.

#### Infectious Disease

There is nothing to report under this heading except the checking up of possible contacts from outside the district.

#### Petroleum (Regulations) Acts 1928 and 1936

There were 25 visits to petroleum storage premises for the testing of a new tank and to see that the Regulations generally were complied with.

#### Explosives Act 1875 - Storage of Fireworks in Retail Shops

Six inspections were made to see that fireworks were properly stored.

#### Diseases of Animals (Waste Food) Order 1957

This Order only applied to one pig keeper at the end of the year.

#### Statutory Nuisances

Nineteen complaints were investigated and resolved: these were mostly complaints of smell, insect pests, or minor housing defects. In addition informal action was taken following matters discovered upon inspection of twelve premises.

#### Caravans and Camping

A survey carried out during the summer by the Surveyor's Department showed that there were in use at the height of the season:

Residential caravans ...	8
Static holiday caravans ..	77
Tourist caravans ...	32
Organised tents ...	10
Casual tents ...	159
Holiday chalets ...	739

There are no gipsy camps in Seaton.

#### Public Health Inspectors' Conference - Blackpool

I have to record that I attended this Conference and found the discussions very interesting and instructive. I was also glad to attend a weekend course for Public Health Inspectors at Exeter University on the subjects of Noise and Clean Food.

P. R. BRADLEY, A.R.S.H.

Public Health Inspector.



